

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheets make changes to Figs. 1-4, 16A-16B and 17A-17B and replace the original sheets with Figs. 1-4 , 16A-16B and 17A-17B.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 8, 10, 12 and 14-18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 6, 7, 9, 11, 13, 19 and 20 have been canceled and claim 1-5, 10 and 12 have been amended. Claims 1-5, 10 and 12 have been amended to correct informalities. Further, claim 12 has been amended to incorporate a feature similar to a feature recited by claim 1. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 because the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration as the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution; (c) satisfy a requirement of form asserted in the previous Office Action; (d) do not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and (e) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the allowance of claims 1-5, 8, 10, 12 and 14-18.

I. Objection to the Drawings

The Office Action objects to the drawings. The drawings have been amended responsive to the objection. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

II. 35 U.S.C. §102 Rejection

The Office Action rejects claims 6, 7, 9, 11-13 and 19-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Serial Bus Protocol 2 (hereinafter "SBP-2") further evidenced by Firewire System Architecture: Second Edition IEEE 1394a (hereinafter "Anderson") and exemplified by U.S. Patent No. 6,445,678 (hereinafter "Bard").

Claims 6, 7, 9, 11, 13 and 19-20 have been canceled rendering the rejection with respect to these claims moot. The rejection with respect to claim 12 is respectfully traversed.

Claim 12 has been amended to recite "the port controller setting the second port to a disabled state and, after the second port is set to a disabled state, the bus reset issue controller issuing the bus reset to cause the first electronic instrument connected with the first port to acquire an access right" (emphasis added). The combination of SBP-2, Anderson, and Bard fails to disclose, teach or suggest at least this feature of claim 12.

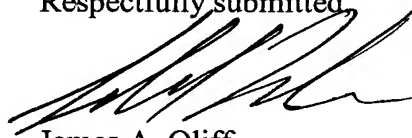
Therefore, claim 12 is patentable. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Srikant Viswanadham
Registration No. 60,111

JAO:SQV/hjr

Attachment:
Replacement Sheets

Date: February 28, 2008

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 320850
Alexandria, Virginia 22320-4850
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
--